

# Christian Community

A Program Service of the Council for Social Action of the  
Congregational Christian Churches, 289 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.  
and the Commission on Christian Social Action of the  
Evangelical and Reformed Church, 2969 West 25th St., Cleveland 13, Ohio

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## WORLD ORDER EMPHASIS

October 19th is World Order Sunday. Each year the churches of America have called for special services on the Sunday preceding October 24, the anniversary of the United Nations Charter, and for the observance of United Nations Week.

This year, which in many ways is crucial for the future, the Evangelical and Reformed Church has called for an "all-out" consideration of pressing international problems. Upon the initiative of the Commission on Christian Social Action, the General Council has asked the members and congregations to participate in a United World Order Emphasis, extending from Labor Day through United Nations Week.

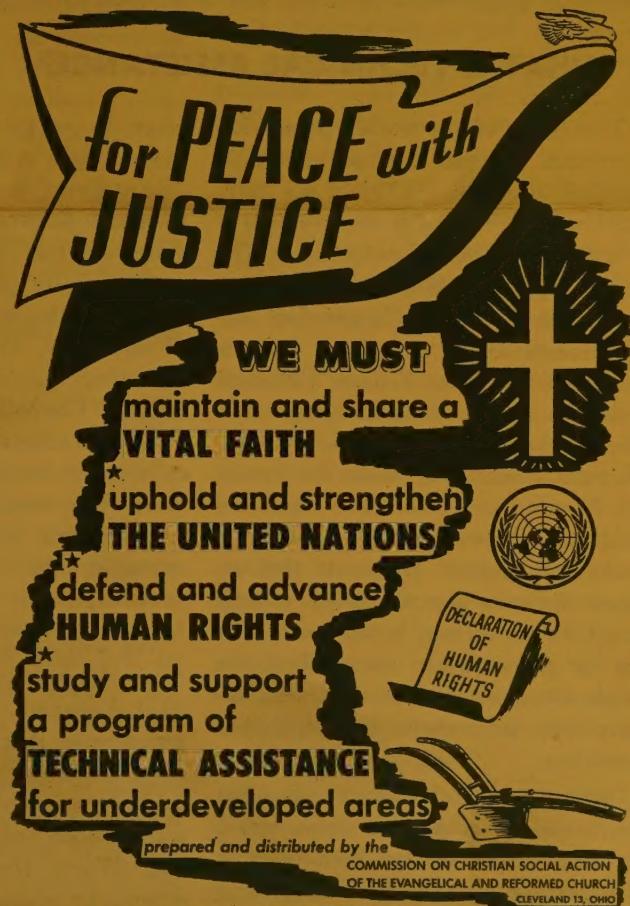
In Evangelical and Reformed churches from coast to coast the poster reproduced on this page is being displayed, calling attention to four of the piers on which our hopes for "peace with justice" must rest—a Vital Faith, the United Nations, Human Rights, and Technical Assistance for underdeveloped areas.

Supporting the Emphasis, the Commission has prepared a 32-page mimeographed Program Outline, a packet of study and reference materials (available from the Commission for one dollar), and a list of outstanding ministers, teachers, and lay persons who have agreed to accept a reasonable number of engagements to address groups and conduct discussions on the various themes of the Emphasis.

Since there is nothing denominational but rather everything basically Christian about the purposes and methods projected, the Council for Social Action is making the poster available to Congregational Christian churches and groups with its own imprint (25c each).

In keeping with not only this denominational Emphasis but the interdenominational interest in world order, *Christian Community* this month features an article on "Technical Assistance and the Christian Missionary Task," prepared by the Reverend Robert T. Henry, Executive Secretary of the Committee on Technical Cooperation of the Division of Foreign Missions of the National Council of Churches. Pointing up, as it does, the opportunity of Christians to work through both church and state to improve the health, welfare, and knowledge of their brethren, it is a significant addition to previously existing materials on the subject.

We urge those churches, social action committees, organizations and church school classes which have not secured their materials and planned their programs to do so at once.



## VISIT UN DURING UN WEEK

The International Relations Department of the Council for Social Action announces that its fifth UNITED NATIONS AND WORLD ORDER SEMINAR will be held in New York City, October 20-22. Meetings will be held in the Congregational Service Center, with lectures by experts from government and private organizations.

One day will be spent at UN headquarters. Tentatively scheduled as a speaker is Thomas Keehn, former CSA staff member now with the American International Association for Economic and Social Development, who will return in September from a trip to South America and India. Herman Reissig will report on European countries visited during July and August.

No more than fifty people can be accommodated. There is no registration fee, travel, meals and lodging being the only expense, with lodging at a moderate rate in the Service Center.

For further information write to Rev. Herman F. Reissig, 289 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

## Technical Assistance and the Christian Missionary Task

By ROBERT T. HENRY

*The missionary enterprise is vitally concerned about conditions that make for peace. A bold and positive strategy in the mission and technical assistance programs must deal with conditions out of which wars develop. Old fragmentary ways of dealing with the world and its people have failed. Exploitation has left bitterness. Among underdeveloped peoples there is unrest and a passion to determine their own courses of action. Such restiveness challenges the efforts of the technical assistance workers as well as board executives and their co-workers—the missionaries.*

### I. WHAT IS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE?

Two-thirds of the world's population is in want. The task demands more than headline attention, or pink tea talk. Hard work is needed if the program is to improve the conditions of men. The late Dr. Henry G. Bennett, Administrator of the Technical Cooperation Administration under the State Department, described Point Four or Technical Assistance as a war against man's old enemies—hunger, disease and illiteracy. "Famine is old," said he at the Breakfast Meeting in Washington about the middle of October, 1951—"the need for famine has passed." He meant that we possess the know-how to produce enough food for every person in the world. It was his philosophy to start where the people are, develop their resources, improve their tools—help the people help themselves.

Initiating such a program called for study, understanding and team work. Technical Assistance has been referred to as the "Bold New Program." Surveys revealed the nature and size of the entire task to be undertaken. This was essential to make the best use of know-how from the more highly developed countries and to properly develop the resources of men and land where help was needed. The program has caught the imagination of the world. It has enlisted many and diverse skills.

Technical Assistance as defined by both the United Nations and the United States involves the "sharing of technical knowledge and skills" and includes use of technicians for field work, the training of nationals at many levels, the providing of equipment, better seeds, some capital and social integration. As the program has been developed it was nec-

essary to see the work through the eyes of the people in the cooperating country. "Point Four" is primarily a government program. Constant effort is required to guarantee that the efforts and advantages actually get to the rice roots—that is, to the people. In the pamphlet, "Point Four, What it is and how it Operates," July 31, 1951, it is declared to be: "The policy of the United States to aid the efforts of peoples of economically underdeveloped countries to develop their resources and improve their working and living conditions by encouraging the exchange of technical knowledge."

We will discuss briefly the operations of the United States program of Technical Assistance. It must, however, be remembered that there is the closest cooperation with the work of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, such as Food and Agriculture Organization, World Health Organization and others. In addition to providing funds, the United States Technical Cooperation Administration also assists and sometimes cooperates with the United Nations in undertaking certain tasks.

At present the Technical Cooperation Administration works through three regional offices:

- 1) The first of these, the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, according to its president, Mr. Kenneth R. Iverson, has made fine progress. This program has been in operation since 1940. In the Amazon Valley health program, where formerly ninety Americans worked, now only eighteen work. The work has been taken over by the Brazilians. That country is now investing 96% of the

cost of this health program. Mr. Iverson attributes the success of Technical Assistance in the South American countries to the joint commissions made up of Americans and officials of the country. The total projects in South America are staffed by some 500 Americans and 9,500 Latin Americans. The programs are mainly concerned with agriculture, health, sanitation and education.

- 2) The Near East and Africa Development Service is responsible for the program in Iran, Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Liberia, Libya and Ethiopia. \$196,000,000 was recommended under the Mutual Security Act of 1952. This will be reduced.

- 3) The Asia Development Service administers the developments in Afghanistan, Nepal, Ceylon, Pakistan and India. \$408,000,000 was recommended, but the contributions by the countries served is as yet small. The Latin American States took ten years to reach the present level of contributions.

With reference to the development of projects these steps should be noted. Usually the requests for cooperation originate with the receiving country and are submitted to the Embassy of the United States in that country. The needs are analyzed, local resources studied, available personnel indicated and chances of success weighed. After a request is cleared in the country of origin it is then sent to Technical Cooperation Administration Headquarters in Washington through the Regional Office. After the grant is made, technicians are named to help carry out the program.

It must be stressed that two very important factors involved in the operations of any assistance programs are: technicians and trainees. The technician must be a person of competence, training, experience (12-15 years) and an ability to get along with people. On January 31, 1952 the following technicians, trainees and leaders were indicated for the three regions:

American Republics \_\_\_\_\_  
 Near East and Africa \_\_\_\_\_  
 Asia \_\_\_\_\_

	<i>Technicians</i>	<i>Trainees</i>	<i>Leaders</i>
	429	205	3
	161	64	17
	52	88	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	642	357	23

This number was distributed to many phases of work, such as, Commissions, program direction, agriculture, natural resources, transportation, government administration, industry, health and sanitation, education, labor, social services and housing.

Mr. Stanley Andrews, the new Administrator for the Technical Cooperation Administration, appointed to succeed the late Dr. Henry G. Bennett, comes from Arkansas. He insists that he will follow the working principles of

Dr. Bennett. Hardened arteries of bureaucracy present difficulties for any administrator, particularly in a program calculated to meet changing conditions. Mr. Andrews is determined to keep the work geared to what the cooperating country can reasonably be expected to continue with its own resources. Competition with United Nations Agencies will be avoided and close collaboration with United States Government Agencies are some of the emphases to be followed. The cooperation of non-governmental agencies will be welcomed.

## II. THE IMPLICATIONS OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHRISTIAN MISSIONS

While it is true that Technical Assistance programs of the United Nations and the United States have stimulated the thinking of Christian and Mission groups, and that missionaries pioneered in many aspects of these programs, the fact remains that the Church itself has never accepted an adequate degree of responsibility for its total Christian witness in relation to the problems of hunger, poverty, disease and ignorance. These conditions of want represent the environment in which a large part of the Christian constituency of the younger churches lives. The awakening of common people everywhere to the fact that no longer need they be hungry, or cold, or unclothed, or poor, or ignorant creates new challenges for the Christian movement. It is important to relate missionary effort more closely with the aspirations of common people and to develop programs for the whole man—physical, mental and spiritual.

The missionary effort has been boosted as some of the leaders in government and international organizations have gone across the world to discover missions. These leaders have seen the importance of starting where the people are, developing their resources, improving their tools—in other words, working with people. At the same time economic

improvement is not enough. The question is: Will missions in cooperation with the younger churches be able to provide the moral and spiritual undergirding for those who share in the benefits growing out of economic improvement? The Church must not disregard its obligation to provide the spiritual environment which will mean full development for men and women. Dr. Hu Shih saw what was involved in the partnership of the material and the spiritual for the advancement of humankind, when he described the material and the spiritual as wings of a bird which must work harmoniously if the bird is to fly. Missions cannot become isolationist and draw within the walls of the compound and hope to maintain their own right to explore and initiate programs that deal with want.

*Thus it is important first of all that the churches understand the technical assistance programs of the United Nations and the United States.* This does not imply the acceptance of funds, but it does allow for exchange of information, experience and the understanding of cultural patterns. Missions can and ought to speak objectively in regard to needs. Such cooperation will not complicate nor embarrass the position of the younger churches with reference to their own national and local backgrounds.

Effectiveness of assistance programs depends on such relations.

*Second, mission organizations must study their own role.* This is being done by certain service agencies and by some Mission Boards. The American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Services, Inc., has undertaken such a study for the agencies affiliated with it. The purpose of the study is to discover the continuing role of such agencies in the development of economic and human resources. The Mission Boards are calling Strategy Conferences to look at the tasks needed in a world of change. Thus the boards are taking stock of the quality and extent of the work undertaken. The churches have a role to play in partnership with the younger churches.

*Third, the Christian movement must produce indigenous leadership.* This leadership must take the know-how to their own people. The trainee in America can learn much and ought to be here. He cannot accomplish much on his return to his own land unless he has a group of people with some basic understanding of what is involved in development. The importance of work in the village and rural areas must be recognized. Men and women must see the value of the rural and village communities and must return to those areas with training and devotion.

*Fourth, Technical Assistance, mission style, can be an effective part of our Christian witness.* Such witness can express our continuing concern for the peoples in underdeveloped areas and at the same time give meaning to our words by expressing fuller partnership with the younger churches. Such concern must be expressed in practical measures which develop people-to-people relations.

*Finally, we conceive our task as not only giving men things to live with, but a faith to live by.* The peoples in underdeveloped areas want to know that we believe in the constructive forces of Christianity, that love is creative, that God is our Father and we are His co-workers. Thus do we dare undertake a program of ministry to the whole man. The missionary task demands much. It is ours to commit ourselves, and our resources for the building of a world in which men can be brothers.

## WHERE DO THE CANDIDATES STAND?

The American people will elect a president this fall. At least, the fifty per cent who ordinarily take the trouble to vote will elect electors who will register the vote of the states. There will be widespread discussion about the relative merits and deficiencies of the respective candidates. Much will depend on the people's choice for this high office.

No less weighty is the election of Senators and Representatives. As has often been observed, the Eighty-third Congress may be called upon to make decisions which will determine the world's future for years to come.

Conscientious voters will, therefore, inquire carefully not only into the personal capacities and party affiliations of these candidates but especially into their position and orientation on the major problems of the hour.

High in any list of these issues is *foreign policy*. How do we propose to meet the responsibility which is ours to check tyranny, injustice and war, and to further freedom, justice and peace? We do not want "preventive" war, on the one hand, nor appeasement, on the other. But what is the policy of Mr. X and Mr. (or Mrs.) Y, and where does it lead? Is he committed to working through the United Nations and in collaboration with other nations concerned with freedom—or does he prefer to have Uncle Sam run the show or, even, go it alone? Is he obsessed with the size or costliness of our military forces, or does he realize that other factors may be even more decisive? Does he seriously support the spirit of "point four" or does he expect to buy world community in a bargain basement?

A second group of issues centers about our *economic policy*, particularly at the point of controlling inflation. The present Congress has all but eliminated price and rent controls. It has shied away from voting the taxes to meet the budget, and its efforts to trim the budget were not conspicuously wise. Yet we cannot meet our international commitments unless we have stability at home. That means effective controls and a fiscal policy which corrects the swing toward inflation, or deflation. "Business as usual" is no prescription for unusual times.

Important, too, is wise planning for the general welfare of our citizens. "Economy" moves too often are directed not against inefficiency and poor organization but against the social services which at relatively small cost benefit the people. Much can be told about the mind of a candidate if he proposes to

set the clock back and weaken existing provisions for education, security and health.

Again, we face most critical decisions in the area of *civil rights and civil liberties*. Will we take forthright measures to safeguard persons from discrimination based on creed or color? Will we disavow the hysteria, the suspicion, the unjust accusation and punishment of political opponents which give McCarthyism (in both parties) an uncanny resemblance to the Communism it professes to hate? The Immigration and Naturalization Law, recently passed over the President's veto, is an ominous manifestation of racial discrimination, and indifference to "due process" which makes it pertinent to ask: Where do our candidates stand on the Bill of Rights?

Finally, there is the issue of *corruption*. In too many church groups, discussion begins and ends with this. In putting it last, we do not minimize it. We must deal firmly with dishonest officials. But we must not lose our perspective by concluding that "the entire government is shot through with graft" or assuming that every public servant is dishonest. Neither must we oversimplify the problem, as if a change of administration were the infallible remedy. Individuals interested in an incisive analysis should secure "Ethical Standards in Government," the report of a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.

Ask your candidates what they think of these issues, and what they intend to do with them. If you are concerned to help other citizens work through to a responsible decision, you may still order your *Voting Record of the Eighty-second Congress* (10 cents each, \$5 per 100) and *What Can Christians Do in 1952?* (10 cents, \$4 per 100) from your denominational social action office. Don't say, "I didn't know," if the "good man" for whom you vote later sells short the principles in which you believe when you might have found out where he stands!

### CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Additional copies may be obtained for 2 cents each. Requests from Congregational Christians should be addressed to Ray Gibbons, Director, Council for Social Action, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York. Requests by Evangelical and Reformed, and others, as well as news items and communications, should be addressed to the Editor, Huber F. Klemme, Commission on Christian Social Action, 2969 West 25th Street, Cleveland 13, Ohio.

## WITH THIS ISSUE

We enclose with this issue of CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY the annual MESSAGE FOR WORLD ORDER DAY adopted by the General Board of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., and PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS for the observance of United Nations Week, prepared by the Church Peace Union.

Many churches have adopted the practice of reading the MESSAGE in their worship service, or distributing it to the congregation on World Order Sunday. This year a special effort has been made to provide not only a clear, practical statement but suggestions for worship and study. Quantity orders should be placed early with the National Council.

## Washington Church Reports

The Social Action Committee of the Cleveland Park Congregational Christian Church, Washington, D. C., Tilford E. Dudley, Chairman, submitted a comprehensive annual report to the congregation during the month of May. The committee summarized its activities under three headings:

1. Relations with the denominational Council for Social Action. The committee communicated to CSA its recommendation that more emphasis be placed on working with local social action committees.

2. Relations with the Washington Area Committee on Social Action. Besides cooperating with forums and other projects sponsored by the area committee, the Cleveland Park group initiated action which led to changes in the organization and program of the regional body.

3. Work within the Cleveland Park Congregation. The committee has commended Pastor Alfred W. Hurst for a series of sermons on "Being a Christian in Today's World"; supported the District Commissioners in their move to eliminate segregation in the Fire Department; with the approval of the Church Cabinet sponsored a displaced person; in a communication to the Senate majority leader supported home rule for the District and urge an early vote on the pending bill; and conducted four discussion groups on the Christian basis for social action.